

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-01

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FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2541

INFO USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

UNCLAS BUDAPEST 0144

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON, HU

SUBJ: HUNGARIAN MEDIA REACTION TO SOVIET DECISION
ON NON-IMPLEMENTATION OF 1972 TRADE AGREEMENT

1. ALL HUNGARIAN DAILIES AS WELL AS RADIO AND TELEVISION
HAVE CARRIED TASS DISPATCH ON SECRETARY KISSINGER'S
STATEMENT ABOUT SOVIET POSITION ON US-SOVIET TRADE, IN
LIGHT OF CONTENTS OF TRADE ACT AND EX-IM CREDIT LIMITATIONS.

2. JAN 16 EDITION OF DAILIES ALSO CARRIED MOSCOW TASS
DISPATCH ON INTERVIEW STATEMENTS BY JOHN CONNOR CONDEMNING
CONGRESSIONAL ACTION AND CALLING FOR CONTINUED EFFORT ON
PART OF AMERCMAN COMPANIES TO INCREASE TRADE WITH SOVIET
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3. HSWP DAILY NEPSZABADSAG CARRIES FRONT-PAGE EDITORIAL JAN 16 SIGNED BY MOSCOW CORRESPONDENT PETER SERENY REPRESENTING FIRST AUTHORITATIVE HUNGARIAN COMMENTARY ON DEVELOPMENTS. MAIN THRUST OF ARTICLE ECHOES MOSCOW THEMES ON UNACCEPTABILITY OF TRADE AND EX-IM ACT PROVISIONS AND CONTRADICTION WITH US-SOVIET DECLARATION SIGNED IN 1972 ON PRINCIPLES OF RELATIONS BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES

4. SERENY'S CONCLUSIONS ARE MODERATELY UPBEAT. EDITORIAL STATES THAT WHILE EXPANDED TRADE RELATIONS COULD DOUBTLESSLY PLAY IMPORTANT ROLE IN STIMULATING AND SUPPORTING DETENTE, THEY ARE ONLY ONE PART OF THE WHOLE PICTURE. WHILE "ENEMIES OF DETENTE" DOUBTLESSLY AMENDED TRADE BILL WITH INTENT OF ENDANGERING ALL OF DETENTE, SAYS SERENY, IT MUST BE STRESSED THAT THE SALT TALKS WILL SOON RESUME IN GENEVA AND THAT IN OTHER FIELDS NUMEROUS BILATERAL AGREEMENTS ARE IN EFFECT AND ARE BEING IMPLEMENTED.

5. EDITORIAL CONCLUDES SAYING THAT DETENTE IS A WORLD-WIDE TREND BASED ON OBJECTIVE REALITIES, AND ITS OPPONENTS WILL SOONER OR LATER HAVE TO FACE THAT FACT. THE SOCIALIST WORLD QUOTE KNOWS WELL WHAT THE TROUBLEMAKERS SEEK, BUT IT ALSO KNOWS THE LIMITS OF THEIR STRENGTH; THEY WILL NOT BE ABLE TO STOP THE WHEELS OF PROGRESS UNQUOTE.
PEDERSEN

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